INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

December 17, 2002

The Honorable Gary Locke
Governor, State of Washington

Dear Governor Locke:

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the State of Washington as of and for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2002, as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the state's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Department of Retirement Systems and the Local Government Investment Pool. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts audited by others, is based upon their reports. Those fiduciary financial statements do not affect the assets and revenues of the state's government-wide financial statements but are included in total assets and additions of the state's fund financial statements as follows:

Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements:	Percent of Assets	Percent of Revenues
Fiduciary Funds – Local Government Investment Pool	100.0%	100.0%
Fiduciary Funds – Pension and Other Employee Benefit Plans	2.6%	9.2%

We conducted our audit in accordance with governmental auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit and the report of other auditors provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.
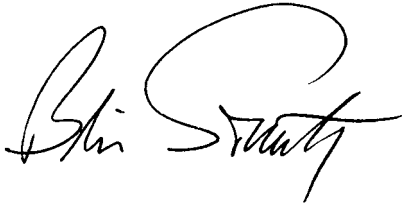
In our opinion, based on our report and the report of other auditors, the basic financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the State of Washington as of June 30, 2002, and the results of its operations and cash flows of its proprietary funds and discretely presented component units for the fiscal year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the Unites States of America.

As discussed in Note 2 to the basic financial statements, the state adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements 4 and Management's Discussion and Analysis 4 for State and Local Governments*; Statement No. 37, *Basic Financial Statements 4 and Management's Discussion and Analysis 4 for State and Local Governments: Omnibus*; and Statement No. 38, *Certain Financial Statement Note Disclosures*.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in the United States of America, we will issue our report on our consideration of the State of Washington's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be read in conjunction with this report in considering the results of our audit.

Management's discussion and analysis and the required supplementary information are not a required part of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information the Governmental Accounting Standards Board requires. We applied limited procedures, consisting principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. We did not audit the information and express no opinion thereon.

Sincerely,

BRIAN SONNTAG, CGFM
State Auditor